



Belton Update
3rd February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

We have had a lovely few weeks in school. Yesterday we had a visit from a RAF Squadron Leader, who this week received an MBE. It was amazing to hear about her work and to actually see a real MBE medal. We had a brilliant Maths morning. Thank you to all those parents and carers who came in to enjoy the morning with us. There was a lovely vibe in school and all the staff were really pleased with the wonderful comments made.

Since my last update the Badgers had a day where visitors came in to school from different jobs to talk to them about all the different things they could do. We hope it will give them food for thought for the future. They have also had a workshop about internet safety from the NSPCC and a talk from the local police about anti-social behaviour.

The children have also completed their work on the village hall mosaic. It was a great project to be a part of. Thank you to Mrs Knight for involving us and Mrs Miller for supporting.

Club

Mrs Miller and Mrs Knight will be running a club at lunchtime on the 9th February to help support Mental Health Week, where the children will be able to work on some lovely craft activities.

Clubs for next half term

Monday: Basketball (Whole School) 22 child limit

Tuesday: Netball (Whole School) 22 child limit

Wednesday: Hockey (KS2)

Thursday: Hockey (KS1 and EYFS)

How to sign up will be out next week

Well done!

Well done to Mrs Jackson who has completed and been signed off for her ELSA training!

Super work for the Gymnastics competition.

Well done Fred, Nancy and Libby who competed on Tuesday in the Year 3 / 4 team. Even with being one short they managed to come 6th!

Well done to the Year 5 / 6 team who competed yesterday. They actually finished 5th out of 11 schools and were only 0.5 of a point off all the medal positions as well. Well done Alesha, Peyton, Jessica and Annabelle.

Well done to Ava who again did really well in her swimming meet!



The Rotary Club Young Artist Competition Winners:

Annalise, Rebekah and Vivienne. Congratulations!

Dates for the exhibitions have also now been confirmed. Work will be displayed on the following dates -
Shepshed Library 16th February - 2nd March

Kegworth Library 3rd March - 17th March

East Leake Library 20th March - 3rd April.

Leicestershire Holidays

We have signed up to support Leicestershire Holidays to help support children facing poverty or other challenges. We will be taking part in their colour dash in April.

[Home - Leicester Children's Holidays \(leicesterchildrensholidays.co.uk\)](http://leicesterchildrensholidays.co.uk)

Mental Health Week

Mental Health week takes place next week and the children will be taking part in different activities during the week. Friday 10th will be Dress to Express yourself day- where something that expresses YOU!

Coming up

The Leading Lights will be taking part in a teams meeting with the other worship teams in the Be Skilled Partnership

FOBS Valentines Non uniform day - 17th February – wear Red!

World Book Day is in March- Mrs Peczek will be giving out more information soon.

PE Kit

Please make sure for PE your child has the correct kit. This includes the correct colour tracksuit bottoms.

For PE all children need

Indoor PE

plain round neck T shirt in house colour red, green, blue and yellow

black / navy blue shorts

black plimsolls

drawstring bag (clearly labelled with child's name)

Outdoor PE: (KS1 & 2 pupils)

a hoodie (plain in house colour red, green, blue and yellow)

black or navy-blue tracksuit/jogging bottoms/leggings

trainers

Uniform

Now the winter is really kicking in please so make sure your child comes to school with a coat. They may wear skins but these need to be under trousers and if they are worn under the school T shirt please also bring a jumper.



Attendance

Letter from our attendance officer.

You may receive a letter from her if your child's attendance is below 90% or of concern.

Please note I cannot authorize holidays in term time unless exceptional circumstances.



YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Dear Parent/Carer,

My name is Paula René. I am a qualified Education Welfare Officer (EWO) from Children's Attendance Welfare Services, (CAWS). I have been commissioned by the school to address their attendance and welfare concerns.

I check the school's registers regularly, specifically concentrating on any child whose attendance falls below 95%, where a substantiated reason or evidence has not been provided. If this be the case I may write to you regarding it.

My letter will:

- Highlight your child's attendance with an invitation for you to contact me.
- Inform you that your child's attendance will be monitored closely until improvement is deemed satisfactory.
- If necessary, include an appointment for you to meet with me to address the issues which you feel may be preventing your child from attending school regularly; this is with a view to offering support and solutions to bring about change.

A child, whose attendance falls below 90%, is deemed to be a "Persistent Absence" pupil as set out by the Department for Education (DfE). Should your child fall into this category, you **WILL** be required to provide the school with evidence to support any further absences, this is to enable the school to authorise the absence.

THE EDUCATION ACT 1996, SECTION 444 STATES:

"If a child of compulsory school age, who is a registered pupil at a school, fails to attend regularly at the school, his parent is guilty of an offence".

In view of the above, I seek your support in ensuring your child attends school regularly and on time, as failure to do so means you place yourself at risk of legal action in the form of a Fixed Penalty Notice and/or Prosecution through the Magistrates Court.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding your child's attendance, or the contents of this letter, I invite you to contact me, either by:

EMAIL: paula@childrensattendance.co.uk

PHONE: 0116 277 6721

Yours sincerely

Paula René
SENIOR EDUCATION WELFARE OFFICER

**Children's Attendance
Welfare Services Ltd**

✉ paula@childrensattendance.co.uk
☎ 0116 277 6721
🌐 childrensattendance.co.uk



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & CARERS

The law states that a parent/carer is responsible for ensuring their child attends school regularly and on time. Failure to do so renders the parent/carer guilty of an offence.

- Compulsory school age is from 5 years to 16 years of age.
- Ideally a child's overall attendance should be above 96%.
- Parents/carers are expected to inform the school on the first day of their child's absence to give the reason why their child is not in school. Failure to do this means the school will code the absences as **UNAUTHORISED**. Prolonged non-contact from the parent could lead to a "Safe and Well Check" being initiated on the grounds of safeguarding, (this can involve the Police).
- A child's absence from school is either recorded as authorised or unauthorised by the school. Parents/carers **CANNOT** authorise their child's absence.
- School can request supporting evidence from parents/carers, this allows them to record a child's absence as authorised.
- School will discuss with and may refer cases where appropriate, to their Education Welfare Officer, should a child's attendance become a concern or fall below 95%.
- The Department for Education (DfE) considers a child, whose attendance falls below 90%, as a "**persistent absent**" child. Schools are expected to address attendance at this level and **not** continue to authorise any further absences unless evidence is provided.
- The regulations regarding holidays in term time changed on the 1st September 2013. These regulations prevent Head Teachers from authorising holidays in term time except in exceptional circumstances. **PARENTS ARE STRONGLY ADVISED NOT TO BOOK HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME WITHOUT FIRST SPEAKING TO THE SCHOOL OR EWO.**
- Children are expected to attend school for 190 days per academic year; the other 175 days are spent at home with you 😊
- Legal action can be taken against parents/carers by the Local Authority if their child's absence has been recorded as unauthorised. This can either be a:

FIXED PENALTY NOTICE (A FINE)

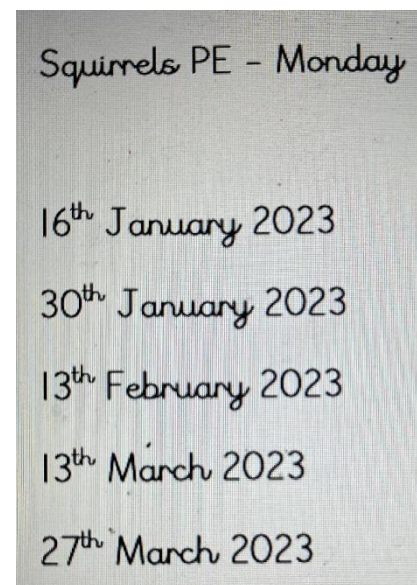
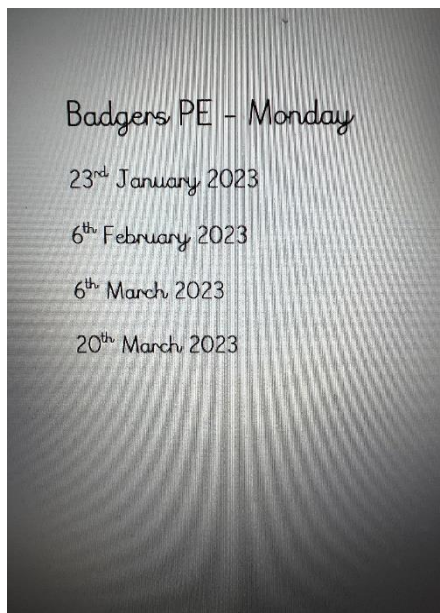
£60 per parent, per child if paid within three weeks, doubling to £120 per parent, per child if paid in the fourth week. Payment is required in full. Failure to pay will result in the Local Authority submitting the matter for prosecution through the Magistrates Court.

PROSECUTION

In the Magistrates Court. The Court can impose a fine of up to £2500 and or 3 months' imprisonment – parents may also be expected to pay court costs and a victims surcharge. The parent/carer usually receives a criminal record. Parents/carers may also be required to attend a parenting course.

Paula René

SENIOR EDUCATION WELFARE OFFICER



IMPORTANT

Diary Dates

6th -10th February Mental Health Week
10th February Dress to Express Day

17th February Leading Lights online meeting Be Skilled
20th -27th February Half term

School opens Tuesday 28th February
2nd March World Book Day

13th March Science Week

21st March Author Visit
23rd March Fire Service Visit Year 1 and Year 5

28th March 6pm Squirrels Easter Performance
29th March 1.45 pm Squirrels Easter Performance
30th April Year 3/4 Charity Easter Egg Hunt
31st April school closes at 3.10pm for the Easter break